

# SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TARIFF

# <u>OF</u>

## **USA VIDEO RELAY, INC.**

This tariff contains the description, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of local exchange telecommunications services by USA Video Relay, Inc. within the State of South Carolina. This tariff is on file with the South Carolina Public Service Commission ("Commission"). Copies may be inspected during normal business hours at the Company's place of business. Inquiries regarding this tariff should be directed to:

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# Check Sheet

All tariff sheets are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this sheet.

| SHEET | REVISION |
|-------|----------|
| 1     | Original |
| 2     | Original |
| 3     | Original |
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# **Symbols**

The following symbols shall be used in this tariff for the purpose indicated below:

- C To signify changed regulation.
- D To signify discontinued rate or regulation.
- 1 To signify increased rate.
- M To signify a move in location of text.
- N To signify new rate or regulation.
- R To signify reduced rate.
- S To signify reissued matter.
- T To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation.

#### **Tariff Format**

- A. <u>Sheet Numbering</u> Sheet numbers appear in the upper-right corner of the sheet. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between existing sheets with whole numbers, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between Sheets 14 and 15 would be Sheet 14.1.
- B. <u>Sheet Revision Numbers</u> Revision numbers also appear in the upper-right corner of the sheet. These numbers are used to determine the most current sheet version on file with the Commission. For example, 4th Revised Sheet 14 cancels 3rd Revised Page 14.
- C. <u>Paragraph Numbering Sequence</u> There are various levels of alphanumeric paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level of coding. For example:
- 2.
- 2.1.
- 2.1.1.
- 2.1.1.A.
- 2.1.1.A.1.
- 2.1.1.A.1.(a)
- D. <u>Check Sheets</u> When a tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated check sheet will accompany the filing. The check sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new sheets are added, the check sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this sheet if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc., remains the same, just new revision levels on some sheets). The tariff user should refer to the latest check sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current sheet on file with the Commission.

**Application of Tariff** 

This tariff sets forth the service offering, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the furnishing of intrastate local exchange telecommunications services by USA Video Relay, Inc. (hereinafter "Company"). This tariff is on file with the South Carolina Public Service Commission ("Commission"), and copies can be inspected, during normal business hours, at Company's principal place of business.

Section 1 – Definitions

Account Number: Customer's telephone number is the account number

Advance Payment: Payment of all or part of a charge required before the start of service.

Application for Service: A standard order form which includes all pertinent billing, technical, and other descriptive information which will enable Company to provide telecommunication service.

<u>Authorized User</u>: A person that either is authorized by the Customer to use local exchange telephone service at Customer's residence or other location, or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to use local exchange telephone service.

Commission: South Carolina Public Service Commission.

Company: USA Video Relay, Inc., which is the issuer of this tariff.

<u>Competitive Local Carrier (CLC)</u>: Denotes a common carrier that is issued the appropriate Certificate to provide local exchange telecommunications service.

<u>Customer</u>: The person, firm, corporation or entity which orders service, uses and/or is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's tariff regulations.

<u>Customer-Provided Equipment</u>: Terminal equipment, as defined herein, provided by Customer. Demarcation Point: The premises wire demarcation point begins where the Customer's inside wire connects to the intrabuilding network cable (INC). Where there is no INC, the demarcation point is the point of entry at Company 's entrance facility. This demarcation point separates the responsibility of the end user from that of a vendor or Company's vendor of choice for premises wire repair and Customer Provided Equipment trouble isolation.

<u>Disconnection</u>: The disconnection of a circuit, dedicated access line, or pod connection being used for existing service.

<u>Exchange Carrier</u>: Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in the provision of local exchange telephone service.

<u>Exchange Service</u>: The furnishing of service for telephone communication within local service areas in accordance with the provisions of this Tariff.

<u>Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC)</u>: A local exchange carrier, including successors and assigns, that is certified by the commission and was providing basic local exchange service on February 8, 1996.

<u>Individual Case Basis</u>: A service arrangement in which the regulations, rates and charges are developed based on the specific circumstances of the Customer's situation.

LATA: A local access and transport area.

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<u>Local Calling</u>: A completed call or telephone communication between a calling Station and any other Station within the local service area of the calling Station.

<u>Local Service</u>: Service which provides for exchange telephone communication within the local service area at rates and under regulations as provided in this Tariff

<u>Local Service Area</u>: That area within which a Customer to exchange service can make telephone calls at exchange rates. A local service area may be made up of one or more central office areas or exchange areas.

Non-Recurring Charges: The one-time initial charges for services or facilities, including but not limited to charges for processing and installation, for which the Customer becomes liable at the time the Service Order is executed.

<u>Premises</u>: Customer premises is all space in the same building occupied by a Customer and all space occupied by the same Customer in different buildings or continuous property.

(<u>Premises</u>) <u>Inside Wire</u>: Inside (premises) wire (simple wire) refers to all non system inside (premises) telephone wire on the Customer's side of the inside wire demarcation point but does not include Customer premises equipment.

<u>Recurring Charges</u>: The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and/or equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

Service Commencement Date: The first day following the date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the Customer's refusal to accept service which does not conform to standards set forth in the Service Order or this tariff, in which case the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance of service. The parties may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date.

<u>Service Order</u>: The written request for local exchange services executed by the Customer and the Company in a format specified by the Company. The signing of a Service Order by the Customer and acceptance thereof by the Company initiates the respective obligations of the parties as set forth therein and pursuant to this tariff; but the duration of the service is calculated from the Service Commencement Date. Service Order may also be referred to as Customer Service Agreement.

Services: The Company's local telecommunications services offered to the Customer.

<u>Speed Dial</u>: Provides a User with the option to call selected directory numbers by dialing a one or two-digit code.

Station: Telephone equipment from or to which calls are placed.

<u>Trunk</u>: A communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

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<u>User</u>: A Customer or any other person authorized by the Customer to use Services provided under this tariff.

Section 2 – Regulations

#### 2.1. Undertaking of the Company

# 2.1.1 Scope

- 2.1.1 A The Company undertakes to furnish intrastate local exchange telecommunications services under the terms of this tariff. Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- 2.1.1 B The Company is responsible under this tariff only for the services and facilities provided herein. Should Customers use such services and facilities to obtain access to services offered by other providers, the Company assumes no responsibility for such other service.

## 2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities

- 2.1.2.A The Company reserves the right to limit or allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered by the Company when necessary because of lack of facilities or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
- 2.1.2.B The furnishing of service under this tariff is subject to availability on a continuing basis of all necessary facilities from the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier or other providers to the Company for resale.

#### 2.1.3 Terms and Conditions

- 2.1.3.A Except as otherwise provided herein, the minimum period of service is one month (30 days). All payments for service are due in advance on the date specified by the Company. Service may be discontinued if a Customer's account remains unpaid after five days prior notice that service will be discontinued. All calculations of dates set forth in this tariff shall be based on calendar days. Should the applicable date fall on a Sunday or Federal holiday, the Customer will be permitted to make payment on the next regular business day.
- 2.1.3.B At the expiration of any term specified in a Customer Service Agreement, or in any extension thereof, service shall continue on a month to month basis at the then current rates unless terminated by either party upon 30 days written notice. Any termination shall not relieve Customer of its obligation to pay any charges incurred under the Agreement and this tariff prior to termination. The rights and obligations which by their nature extend beyond the termination of the term of the Agreement shall survive such termination.

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- 2.1.3.D Another telephone company must not interfere with the right of any person or entity to obtain service directly from the Company.
- 2.1.3.E The Customer has no property right to the telephone number or any other call number designation associated with services furnished by the Company. The Company reserves the right, on sixty (60) days notice, to change such numbers, or the central office designation associated with such numbers, or both, assigned to the Customer, whenever the Company deems it necessary to do so in the conduct of its business.

## 2.1.4. Liability of the Company

The Company shall comply with the Rules and Regulations contained in the Public Service Commission of South Carolina's Telecommunications Utilities Regulations.

## 2.1.5 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements and routing and preventive maintenance. Generally, such activities are not specific to an individual Customer but affect many Customer's services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine the reasonable notifications requirements. With some emergency or unplanned service-affecting conditions, such as outage resulting from cable damage, notification to the Customer may not be possible.

#### 2.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities

- 2.1.6.A The Company shall use reasonable efforts to make available services to qualified applicants within five (5) business days after receipt of application unless a later date is requested. The Company will notify the applicant of the expected service date. If the Company is not able to connect service on the date expected, the Company shall promptly notify the applicant of the new expected service connection date. The Company does not guarantee availability by any such date and shall not be liable for any delays in commencing service to any Customer.
- 2.1.6.B The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain facilities that it furnishes to the Customer. The Customer may not nor may the Customer permit others except the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier to, rearrange, disconnect, remove, and attempt to repair or otherwise interfere with any of the facilities installed by the Company, except upon written consent of the Company.
- 2.1 .6.C The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer provided communications equipment. Where such

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equipment is connected to the facilities furnished pursuant to this tariff; the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities offered under this tariff and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities. Beyond this responsibility, the Company shall not be responsible for:

- 1. the transmission of signals by Customer provided equipment or for the quality of or defects in, such transmission; or
- 2. the reception of signals by Customer provided equipment; or
- 3. network control signaling where such signaling is performed by Customer provided network control signaling equipment.

#### 2.1.7 Non-Routine Installation

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside Company's regular business hours or in hazardous locations. In such cases, charges based on the cost of the actual labor, material, or other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. If installation is started during regular business hours into time periods including, but not limited to, weekends, holidays, and/or night hours, additional charges may apply.

## 2.1.8 Ownership of Facilities

Title to all facilities provided in accordance with this tariff remains in the Company, its agents or contractors or the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier.

#### 2.2 Prohibited Uses

- 2.2.1 The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purposes or for any use as to which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorizations, licenses, consents and permits. Services also may not be used for any purpose for which any payment or other compensation is received by the Customer except when the Customer is a duly authorized regulated common carrier. This provision does not prohibit an arrangement between the customer, authorized user, or joint user to share the cost of the service as long as the arrangement generates no profit for any participant in the arrangement.
- 2.2.2 The Company may require a Customer to shut down its transmission of signals after five (5) days of prior written notice, if said transmission is causing interference to others.

#### 2.3 Obligations of the Customer

#### 2.3.1 General

The Customer shall be responsible for:

A. Placing orders for service. When placing an order for service, Customer must provide:

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- 1. the name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) responsible for the payment of service charges; and
- 2. The name(s), telephone number(s), and address(es) of the Customer contact person(s).
- B. the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this tariff.
- C. reimbursing the Company for damages to, or loss of, the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or omissions of the Customer; or the noncompliance by the Customer, with these regulations; or by fife or then or other casualty on the Customer's premises, unless caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the employees or agents of the Company. The Company will, upon reimbursement for damages, cooperate with the Customer in prosecuting a claim against the person causing such damage and the Customer shall be subrogated to the Company's right of recovery of damages to the extent of such payment.
- D. providing at no charge, as specified from time to time by the Company, any needed personnel, equipment, space and power to operate Company facilities and equipment installed on the premises of the Customer, and the level of heating and air conditioning necessary to maintain the operating environment on such premises;
- E. obtaining, maintaining, and otherwise having full responsibility for all rights-of- way and conduit necessary for installation of fiber optic cable and associated equipment used to provide local exchange service to the Customer from the cable building entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space described in
- D. Any costs associated with obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-way described herein, including the costs of altering the structure to permit installation of the Company-provided facilities, shall be borne entirely by, or may be charged by the Company to, the Customer. The Company may require the Customer to demonstrate its compliance with this section prior to accepting an order for service:
- F. providing a safe place to work and complying with all laws and regulations regarding the working conditions on the premises at which Company employees and agents shall be installing or maintaining the Company's facilities and equipment. The Customer may be required to install and maintain Company facilities and equipment within a hazardous area if, in the Company's opinion, injury or damage to the Company's employees or property might result from installation or maintenance by the Company. The Customer shall be responsible for identifying, monitoring, removing and disposing of any hazardous material (e.g. friable asbestos) prior to any construction or installation work.
- G. complying with all laws and regulations applicable to, and obtaining all consents, approvals, licenses and permits as may be required with respect to, the

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location of Company facilities and equipment in any Customer premises or the rights-of-way for which Customer is responsible under section 2.3.1.D above; and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the premises of the Customer at any time for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, or upon termination of service as stated herein, removing the facilities or equipment of the Company;

H. not creating or allowing to be placed or maintained any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities; and

1. making Company facilities and equipment available periodically for maintenance purposes at a time agreeable to both the Company and the Customer. No allowance for interruptions in service will be made for the period during which service is interrupted for such purposes.

#### 2.3.2 Claims

With respect to any service or facility provided by the Company, Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees for:

A. any loss, destruction or damage to property of the Company or any third party, or the death of or injury to persons, including, but not limited to, any employee or invitee of either the Company or the Customer, to the extent caused by or resulting from negligent or intentional act or omission of the Customer, its employees, agents, representatives or invitee; or

B. any claim, loss damage, expense or liability for infringement of any copyright, patent, trade secret, or any proprietary or intellectual property right of any third party, arising from any act or omission by the Customer, including, with limitation, use of the Company's services and facilities in a manner not contemplated by the agreement between the Customer and the Company.

#### 2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

### 2.4.1 Interconnection of Facilities

- 2.4.1.A Services furnished by the Company may be connected to the services or facilities of other authorized communications carriers only when authorized by, and in accordance with, the terms and conditions of the tariffs of the other communications carriers which are applicable to such connections. Service furnished by the company is not part of a joint undertaking with such other carriers.
- 2.4.1.B Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing local exchange service and the channels, facilities, or equipment of others may be provided at the Customer's expense.

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- 2.4.1 C Facilities furnished under this tariff may be connected to Customer provided terminal equipment in accordance with the provision of this tariff.
- 2.4.1.D The Customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting his or her customer provided terminal equipment of communications systems with Company's facilitates. Customers shall secure all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnections.

# 2.4.2 Inspections

- 2.4.2.A Upon reasonable notification to the Customer, and at a reasonable time, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the Customer is complying with the requirements set forth herein for the installation, operation, and maintenance of any customer-provided facilities and equipment to any Company-owned facilities and equipment. No credit will be allowed for any interruptions occurring during such inspections.
- 2.4.2.B If the protective requirements for Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as it deems necessary to protect its facilities, equipment and personnel. The Company will notify the Customer promptly if there is any need for flintier corrective action. Within ten days of receiving this notice the Customer must take this corrective action and notify the Company of the action taken. If the Customer fails to do this, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including the suspension of service, to protect its facilities, equipment and personnel from harm. The Company will, upon request 24 hours in advance, provide the Customer with a statement of technical parameters that the Customer's equipment must meet.

# 2.5 Payment Arrangements

#### 2.5.1 Payment for Service

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for service and facilities furnished by the Company to the Customer or authorized Users. If an entity other than the Company imposes charges on the Company, in addition to its own internal costs, in connection with a service for which a Company Non-Recurring Charge is specified, those charges may be passed on to the Customer.

2.5.1.A Taxes: The Customer is responsible for the payment of any sales, excise, access or other local, state and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated) excluding taxes on the Company's net income assessed in conjunction with service used. Any taxes imposed by a local jurisdiction (e.g. County and municipal taxes) will only be recovered from those Customers residing in the affected jurisdictions.

### 2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges

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It shall be the responsibility of the Customer to pay any such taxes that subsequently become applicable retroactively.

- 2.5.2.A All payments for service are paid in advance and are due thirty days (30) from the date of installation and on the expiration of each subsequent thirty day (30) period. The Company mails statements to each customer 30 days in advance during every billing cycle indicating the due date and the amount that is due. If a bill to the current customer remains unpaid after five days prior notice, service is disconnected.
- 2.5.2.B Customers may pay for service by credit card, an authorized payment agent, or check.

# 2.5.3 Disputed Bills

If written or verbal notice of dispute as to charges is not received by the Company within the applicable statute of limitations such bill shall be deemed correct and binding. In the case of a billing dispute between the user and the Carrier for service furnished to the user, which cannot be settled with mutual satisfaction, the user can take the following course of action:

- 1.) First, the user may request, and the Carrier will provide, an in-depth review of the disputed amount. (The undisputed portion and subsequent bills must be paid on a timely basis or the service may be subject to disconnect.)
- 2.) Second, if there is still a disagreement about the disputed amount after the investigation and review by manager of the Carrier, the user may file an appropriate complaint with the Commission. The Commission's address is:

South Carolina Public Service Comm. 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, South Carolina 29210 Phone: (803) 737-5100 or 1-800-922-1531

#### 2.5.4 Discontinuance of Service

The Company may discontinue service or cancel an application for service for any of the following:

- 2.5.4.A Upon nonpayment of any regulated amounts owing to the Company after five days notice, the company may discontinue service.
- 2.5.4.B Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service, the Company may, by giving five (5) days prior notice in writing to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service if such violation continues during that period.

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- 2.5.4.C Upon condemnation of any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company, by notice to the Customer, may discontinue or suspend service.
- 2.5.4.D Upon the Customer's abandonment of service, the Company may, with five (5) day prior written notice to the Customer, discontinue service.
- 2.5.4.E Upon any governmental prohibition, or required alteration of the services to be provided or any violation of any applicable law or regulation, the Company may, with five (5) day prior written notice to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service.
- 2.5.4.F The Company may discontinue the furnishing of any and/or all service(s) to a Customer:
  - 1. Immediately and without notice if the Company deems that such action is necessary to prevent or to protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents, facilities or services.
  - 2. The Customer provides false information to the Company regarding the Customer's identity, address, or use of services(s).
  - 3. The Customer uses, or attempts to use, service with the intent to avoid the payment, either in whole or in part, of the tariffed charges for the service by:
    - (a) Using or attempting to use service by rearranging, tampering with, or making connections to the Company's service not authorized by this tariff; or
    - (b) Using tricks, schemes, false or invalid numbers, false credit devices, electronic devices; or
    - (c) Any other fraudulent means or devices; or
  - 4. The customer is not in compliance with a Commission order, delayed payment agreement, or extension agreement with the Company
  - 5. Unauthorized use of service or tampering with the Company's equipment;
- 2.5.4.G In the event that service is discontinued without prior written notice, the Company shall notify the customer of the reason for suspension by first class mail or by leaving a notice at the premises.
- 2.5.4.H Service may be discontinued after five (5) day prior written notice for, but not limited to the following reasons (The company may deliver the notice to the customers premise, leaving it in a conspicuous

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place, or if the notice is mailed, the five (5) days begins three (3) days after the date the notice is placed in the U.S. mail, first class.)

- 1. Use of service for unlawful purposes.
- 2. Use of service in such a manner as to interfere with the service of other users;
- 3. Noncompliance with any provisions of this tariff if the noncompliance is not corrected within that five (5) day period;
- 4. The customer has not paid a billed charge associated with providing service; or
- 5. Refusing to grant the Company access to its equipment at reasonable times.
- 2.5.4.I The discontinuance of service(s) by the Company pursuant to this Section does not relieve the Customer of any obligation to pay the Company for charges due and owing for service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance.

# 2.5.5 Credit Allowance - Directory

Subject to the provisions of Section 2.1.4 of this tariff, the Company shall allow, for errors or omissions in alphabetical telephone directories (excluding the use of bold face type), an amount within the following limits:

- 1. For listings in alphabetical telephone directories furnished without additional charge, an amount not in excess of the minimum monthly charge to the Customer for exchange service during the effective life of the directory in which the error or omission occurred.
- 2. For listings and lines of information in alphabetical telephone directories furnished at additional charge, an amount not in excess of the charge for that listing during the effective life of the directory in which the error or omission occurred.
- 3. For listings and lines of information records furnished without additional charge, an amount not in excess of the minimum monthly charge to the Customer for exchange service during the period the error or omission continued.
- 4. For listings in information records furnished at additional charge, an amount not in excess of the charge for the listing during the period the error or omission continued.

# 2.5.6 Returned Check Charge

Carrier will bill Customer a one-time charge for each check for payment of service that is returned for insufficient or uncollected funds, closed account, or any other insufficiency or discrepancy necessitating return of

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the check at the discretion of the drawee bank or other financial institution.

The amount of this charge will not exceed the amount applicable by state law.

# 2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service

When the use of service or facilities finished by the Company is interrupted due to any cause other than the negligence or willful act of the Customer, or the operation or failure of the facilities or equipment provided by the Customer, a pro rata adjustment of the monthly Charges subject to interruption will be allowed for the service and facilities rendered useless and inoperative by reason of the interruption whenever said interruption continues for a period of 24 hours or more from the time the interruption is reported to or known to exist by the Company, except as otherwise specified in the Company's tariffs. It shall be the obligation of the Customer to notify Company immediately of any interruption in service for which a credit allowance is desired by Customer. Before giving such notice, the Customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission of the Customer within his or her control, or is not in wiring or equipment, if any, furnished by Customer and connected to Company's terminal. If the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be inoperative but declines to release it for testing and repair, it is considered to be impaired, but not interrupted.

#### 2.6.1 Credit Allowances

- 2.6.1.A Credit for failure of service or equipment will be allowed only when failure is caused by or occurs in facilities or equipment owned, provided and billed for, by Company.
- 2.6.1.B Credit allowances for failure of service or equipment starts when Customer notifies Company of the failure or when Company becomes aware of the failure and ceases when the operation has been restored and an attempt has been made to notify Customer.
- 2.6. 1.C For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have 30 days. A credit allowance is applied on a pro rata basis against the monthly Charges specified hereunder and is dependent upon the length of the interruption. Only those facilities on the interrupted portion of the circuit will receive a credit. Credit allowances for services outages that exceed 24 hours in duration will be rounded up to the next whole 24 hours.
- 2.6.2 Limitations on Allowances No credit will be allowed for:
  - 2.6.2.A interruptions due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by the Customer or any person using the Company's services with the Customer's permission;

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- 2.6.2.B interruptions due to the failure or malfunction of non-Company equipment;
- 2.6.2.C interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- 2.6.2.D interruptions during which the Customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis;
- 2.6.2.E interruptions during any period when the Customer has released service to the Company for maintenance or implementation of a Customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- 2.6.2.F interruption of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the Company's control.

#### 2.7 Cancellation of Service

# 2.7.1 Cancellation of Application for Service

- 2.7.1.A Applications for service may be canceled orally or in writing. When a Customer cancels an application for service prior to the start of service or prior to any special constructions, no charges will be imposed, except as set forth below.
- 2.7.1.B Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the service or in preparing to install the service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs the Company incurred, less net salvage, shall apply. In no case shall this charge exceed the sum of the charge for the minimum period of service ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the Company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service begun.
- 2.7.1.C The special charges described in 2.7.1.A and 2.7.1.B will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

### 2.7.2 Cancellation of Service by a Customer

- 2.7.2.A To cancel or terminate service, a customer must provide the Company with five (5) days notice.
- 2.7.2.B If a Customer cancels a Service Order or terminates services before the completion of the term for any reason whatsoever other than a service interruption (as defined in 2.6 above), Customer agrees to pay to Company the following sums which shall become due and owing as of the effective date of the cancellation or termination and be payable within the period set forth in 2.5.2, all costs, fees and expenses incurred in connection with:

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- 1. all Non-Recurring Charges reasonably expended by Company to establish service to Customer, plus
- 2. any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by Company on behalf of Customer, plus
- 3. all Recurring Charges for the applicable notice period.

### 2.8 Transfers and Assignments

Neither the Company nor the Customer may assign or transfer its rights or duties in connection with the services and facilities provided by the Company without the written consent of the other party, except that the Company may assign its rights and duties (a) to any subsidiary, parent company or affiliate of the Company; (b) pursuant to any sale or transfer or substantially all the assets of the Company; or (c) pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

## 2.9 Notices and Communications

- 2.9.1 The Customer shall designate an address to which the Company shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that Customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for service shall be mailed.
- 2.9.2 The Company shall designate an address to which the Customer shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that Company may designate a separate address to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.
- 2.9.3 All notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this tariff will be in writing. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by the Company, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third business day following deposit of the notice, communication or bill with the U.S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.

# Section 3 – Service Descriptions

### 3.1 Local Exchange Service

The Company's local exchange services will be offered within the BellSouth service territory.

- 3.1.1 The Company's Local Telephone Service provides a Customer with the ability to:
  - place or receive calls to any calling Station in the local calling area, as defined herein;
  - access basic 911 Emergency Service;
  - access the interexchange carrier selected by the Customer for interLATA, intraLATA, interstate or international calling;
  - place calls to 800/888/887 telephone numbers;

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- access Telecommunication Relay Service.

3.1.2 Standard Features: Each Local Line Customer is provided with the following standard features:

Touch Tone **Direct Inward Dialing Direct Outward Dialing** 

- 3.1.3 Optional Features: A Customer may order optional features, at the rates specified in this tariff.
- 3.1.4 Local Exchange Residential Service: Residence Service is that service furnished in private homes or apartments, including all parts of the subscriber's domestic establishment, for domestic use and not for substantial occupational use; in the study of a clergyman located in a church, in a college fraternity or sorority house, college dormitories, convents and monasteries for domestic rather than occupational use in residential quarters.
- 3.1.5 Local Exchange Business Services: Business Services are offered for local calling using the facilities of the Company and/or those of other authorized Local Exchange Carriers. The Company's Business Services are offered primarily to the following:
  - 1. Offices, stores, factories, mines and all other places of a strictly business nature:
  - 2. Offices of hotels, boarding houses, apartment houses, colleges, quarters occupied by clubs and fraternal societies, public, private or parochial schools, hospitals, nursing homes, libraries, churches, and other institutions; and
  - 3. Services terminating solely on the secretarial facilities of a telephone answering bureau.

#### 3.2 Directory Listings

The Company shall provide for a single directory listing, termed the primary listing, in the telephone directory published by the dominant exchange service provider in the Customer's exchange area of the Station number which is designated as the Customer's main billing number.

- 3.2.1. The Company reserves the right to limit the length of any listing in the directory by abbreviations when, in its judgment, the clearness of the listing or the identification of the Customer is not impaired thereby. Where more than one line is required to properly list the Customer, no additional charge is made.
- 3.2.2 The Company may refuse a listing which is known not to constitute a legally authorized or adopted name, obscenities in the name, or any listing which, in the opinion of the Company, likely to mislead or deceive calling persons as to the identity of the listed patty, or is a contrived name used for advertising purposes or to secure a preferential position in the directory or is more elaborate than is reasonably necessary to

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identify the listed party. The Company, upon notification to the Customer, will withdraw any listing which is found to be in violation of its rules with respect thereto.

- 3.2.3 In order for listings to appear in an upcoming directory, the Customer must furnish the listing to the Company in time to meet the directory publishing schedule.
- 3.2.4 Directory listings are provided in connection with each Customer service as specified herein.

## 3.3 Emergency Services (Enhanced 911)

Allows Customers to reach appropriate emergency services including police, fire and medical services. Enhanced 911 has the ability to selectively route an emergency call to the primary E911 provider so that it reaches the correct emergency service located closest to the caller. In addition, the Customer's address and telephone information will be provided to the primary E911 provider for display at the Public Service Answering Point (PSAP).

## 3.4 Directory Assistance

Customers and users of the Company's business and residential calling services (excluding Toll Free services) may obtain directory assistance in determining telephone numbers within the state by calling the Directory Assistance operator. A credit will be given for calls to Directory Assistance when:

- (1) the Customer experiences poor transmission or is cut-off during the call;
- (2) the Customer is given an incorrect telephone number; or
- (3) the Customer inadvertently misdials an incorrect Directory Assistance NPA.

To receive a credit, the customer must notify the Company of the problem experienced.

# 3.5 Customer Service

Customer service is available by calling the Company toll free at 1-888-705-0373 (Voice/TTY), or by writing to the Company at 925 Wappoo Road, Suite C, Charleston, SC 29407/.

#### 3.6 Marketing Practices

Any marketing efforts will clearly indicate to the potential customers the nature of the transaction which is being offered. Materials submitted to prospective customers will clearly indicate that those customers will be changing their long distance carrier if they accept such solicitation. As a telephone utility under the regulation of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, the carrier hereby asserts and affirms that as a reseller of intrastate telecommunications service, it will not indulge or participate in deceptive or misleading telecommunications marketing practices to the detrinent of consumers in South Carolina, and it will comply with those marketing procedure, if any, set forth by the Public Service Commission. Additionally, it will be responsible for the marketing practices of its contracted telemarketers for compliance with this provision. It

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understands that violation of this provision could result in a rule to show cause as to the withdrawal of its certificate to complete intrastate telecommunications traffic within the State of South Carolina.

#### Section 4 - Rates

# 4.1 Residential Local Exchange Service Rates

# 4.1.1 Line Cost, Connections and Features

#### 4.1.1.A Flat Rate Service

#### MRC

Rate Group 1 (0-13,800 lines) \$10.95

Rate Group 2 (13,801 - 25,100 lines) \$11.72

Rate Group 3 (25,101 - 45,500 lines) \$12.32

Rate Group 4 (45,501 - 200,800 lines) \$12.91

Rate Group 5 (200,801 - 1,191,800 lines) \$15.80

# 4.1.1.B Optional Features

| •  | NRC     | MRC     |
|--|---------|---------|
| Call Forwarding Variable                           | \$13.50 | \$3.24  |
| Three-way Calling 1                                | \$13.50 | \$3.24  |
| Call Waiting                                       | \$13.50 | \$3.29  |
| Speed Dialing - 8 code                             | \$13.50 | \$3.24  |
| Speed Dialing - 30 code                            | \$13.50 | \$3.69  |
| Call Forward Busy Line                             | \$13.50 | \$0.90  |
| Call Forward Don't Answer                          | \$13.50 | \$0.90  |
| Customer Control - CF Busy Line                    | \$13.50 | \$2.70  |
| Customer Control - CF Don't Answer                 | \$13.50 | \$2.70  |
| Call Forwarding Busy Line Multipath 2              | \$13.50 | \$1.80  |
| Call Forwarding Don't Answer Multipath 2           | \$13.50 | \$1.80  |
| Call Forwarding Variable Multipath                 | \$13.50 | \$2.70  |
| Remote Access - Call Forwarding Variable           | \$13.50 | \$5.40  |
| Call Waiting Deluxe 3                              | \$13.50 | \$5.40  |
| Call Forwarding Don't Answer - Ring Control        | \$13.50 | \$0.90  |
| Three Way Calling With Transfer 4                  | \$13.50 | \$4.46  |
| Flexible Call Forwarding (FCF)                     | \$13.50 | \$4.50  |
| FCF with Audio Calling Name                        | \$13.50 | \$6.30  |
| FCF - Plus   | \$13.50 | \$6.30  |
| FCF Plus with Audio Calling Name                   | \$13.50 | \$8.10  |
| Star 98 Access                                     | \$13.50 | \$0.90  |
| Remote Call Forwarding (RCF)                       | \$13.05 | \$16.65 |
| RCF additional path following initial installation | \$10.80 | \$16.65 |
| Distinctive Ring I                                 | \$13.50 | \$3.56  |
| Distinctive Ring II                                | \$13.50 | \$5.36  |

# 4.1.1.C CLASS Features

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|                                | NRC     | MRC    |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Call Return                    | \$13.50 | \$3.96 |
| Repeat Dialing                 | \$13.50 | \$3.78 |
| BusyConnect, per activation    |         | \$0.75 |
| Call Selector                  | \$13.50 | \$3.78 |
| Preferred Call Forwarding      | \$13.50 | \$3.78 |
| Call Block                     | \$13.50 | \$3.78 |
| Call Trace                     | \$13.50 | \$3.78 |
| Caller ID - Basic              | \$13.50 | \$6.30 |
| Caller ID - Deluxe             | \$13.50 | \$6.75 |
| Anonymous Call Rejection (ACR) | n/a     | \$2.97 |
|                                |         |        |

# 4.1.1.D Complete Package

Complete Package provides unlimited use of specific features with a flat rate access line. Service Charges do not apply for transactions involving only additions, deletions or changes to service/features requested as part of this service. Access line installation charges apply.

#### **MRC**

Per Line \$30.15

Per Two-Line Plan package \$59.85

Per Three-Line Plan package \$87.75

# 4.1.1.E Line Connection Charges

#### **NRC**

First Line, per request \$37.80

Additional Line, each \$13.50

## 4.1.1.F Line Change Charge

#### **NRC**

First Line, per request \$31.50

Additional Line, each \$10.80

## 4.1.1.G Secondary Service Charge

Applies per customer request for the receiving, recording and processing of customer requests to change services or add new or additional services.

Per request \$13.50

## 4.1.1.H. TouchTone

No charge.

# 4.1.1.I Premise Work Charge

# NRC

First 15 minute or fraction thereof \$27.00

Each Additional 15 minute increment or fraction \$12.60

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## 4.1.1.J. Toll Restriction

Provides blocking of 1+, 101XXXX, 976, 900 and screening information to prevent operator assisted calls from being billed to subscriber's line.

|                                   | NRC     | MRC    |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Selective Class of Call Screening |         |        |
| per line                          | \$13.50 | \$1.13 |

## 4.1.1.K Directory Listings

Non-recurring charge applies to customer requested changes in directory listings, except for changing from non-published/non-listed to a listed number.

|                     | NRC     | MKC    |
|---------------------|---------|--------|
| Non-listed          | \$13.50 | \$1.64 |
| Non-Published       | \$13.50 | \$3.15 |
| Additional Listings | \$13.50 | \$1.08 |

# 4.2 Business Local Exchange Service Rates

Customers signing a 1 year term contract qualify for a 10% discount off of the rates stated in this section.

## 4.2.1 Line Costs, Connections and Features

## 4.2.1.A Flat Rate Service

## **MRC**

Rate Group 1 (0-13,800 lines) \$28.80

Rate Group 2 (13,801 - 25,100 lines) \$29.61

Rate Group 3 (25,101 - 45,500 lines) \$29.61

Rate Group 4 (45,501 - 200,800 lines) \$29.61

Rate Group 5 (200,801 - 1,191,800 lines) \$29.61

## 4.2.1.B Optional Features

|  | NKC     | MKC    |
|--|---------|--------|
| Call Forwarding Variable                 | \$18.00 | \$3.96 |
| Three-way Calling 5                      | \$18.00 | \$3.96 |
| Call Waiting                             | \$18.00 | \$3.96 |
| Speed Dialing - 8 code                   | \$18.00 | \$3.96 |
| Speed Dialing - 30 code                  | \$18.00 | \$4.95 |
| Call Forward Busy Line                   | \$18.00 | \$3.47 |
| Call Forward Don't Answer                | \$18.00 | \$3.47 |
| Customer Control - CF Busy Line          | \$18.00 | \$6.66 |
| Customer Control - CF Don't Answer       | \$18.00 | \$6.30 |
| Call Forwarding Busy Line Multipath 6    | \$18.00 | \$3.20 |
| Call Forwarding Don't Answer Multipath 2 | \$18.00 | \$3.20 |
| Call Forwarding Variable Multipath       | \$18.00 | \$3.20 |
| Remote Access - Call Forwarding Variable | \$18.00 | \$8.42 |
|  |         |        |

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MDC

MD/C

| <br>   |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| n/a  | n/a   | Call Waiting Deluxe  |
| \$3.47   | \$18.00   | Call Forwarding Don't Answer - Ring Control  |
| \$5.40   | \$18.00   | Three Way Calling With Transfer 7  |
| <b>\$</b> 8.91   | \$18.00   | Flexible Call Forwarding (FCF)   |
| \$9.90   | \$18.00   | FCF with Audio Calling Name  |
| n/a  | n/a   | FCF - Plus   |
| n/a  | n/a   | FCF Plus with Audio Calling Name   |
| \$1.80   | \$18.00   | Star 98 Access   |
| \$16.65  | \$13.05   | Remote Call Forwarding (RCF)   |
| \$16.65  | \$10.80   | RCF additional path following initial installation   |
| \$7.20   | \$18.00   | Distinctive Ring I   |
| \$9.00   | \$18.00   | Distinctive Ring 11  |
|  |   | 4.2.1.C CLASS Features   |
| MRC  | NRC   |  |
| \$4.68   | \$18.00   | Call Return  |
| \$4.46   | \$18.00   | Repeat Dialing   |
| \$0.75   |   | •  |
| \$4.46   | \$18.00   | Call Selector  |
| <b>\$4.46</b>  | \$18.00   | Preferred Call Forwarding  |
| <b>\$</b> 4.46   | \$18.00   |  |
| \$4.95   | \$18.00   | Call Trace   |
| \$8.15   | \$18.00   | Caller ID - Basic  |
| \$9.00   | \$18.00   |  |
| \$3.96   | n/a   | <del></del>  |
| \$14.36  | \$18.00   | Enhanced Caller ID with ACR  |
| \$15.26  | \$18.00   | Enhanced Caller ID with Call Management  |
| \$7.20<br>\$9.00<br>MRC<br>\$4.68<br>\$4.46<br>\$0.75<br>\$4.46<br>\$4.46<br>\$4.46<br>\$4.95<br>\$8.15<br>\$9.00<br>\$3.96<br>\$14.36 | \$18.00<br>\$18.00<br>\$18.00<br>\$18.00<br>\$18.00<br>\$18.00<br>\$18.00<br>\$18.00<br>\$18.00<br>\$18.00<br>\$18.00 | Distinctive Ring I Distinctive Ring II  4.2.1.C CLASS Features  Call Return Repeat Dialing BusyConnect, per activation Call Selector Preferred Call Forwarding Call Block Call Trace Caller ID - Basic Caller ID - Deluxe Anonymous Call Rejection (ACR) Enhanced Caller ID with ACR |

# 4.2.I.D Complete Package

Complete Package provides unlimited use of specific features with a flat rate access line. Service Charges do not apply for transactions involving only additions, deletions or changes to service/features requested as part of this service. Access Line Installation charges apply.

(1) Option 1

## MRC

Per Line \$72.90

Per Two-Line Plan package \$135.00

Per Three-Line Plan package \$195.30

## (2) Option 2

MRC

Per Line \$50.40

Per Two-Line Plan package \$90.00

Per Three-Line Plan package \$127.80

# 4.2.1.K Line Connection Charges

NRC

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First Line, per request \$65.70 Additional Line, each \$19.80

# 4.2.1.E Line Change Charge

**NRC** 

First Line, per request \$43.20 Additional Line, each \$12.60

## 4.2.1.F Secondary Service Charge

Applies per customer request for the receiving, recording and processing of customer requests to change services or add new or additional services.

Per request \$18.00

#### 4.2.1.G TouchTone

| Applies when added subsequent to establishment of service. | NRC     | MRC    |
|--|---------|--------|
| •  | \$18.00 | \$2.70 |

## 4.2.1.H Premise Work Charge

NRC

First 15 minute or fraction thereof \$27.00

Each Additional 15 minute increment or fraction \$12.60

#### 4.2.1.I Toll Restriction

Provides blocking of 1+, 101XXXX, 976, 900 and screening information to prevent operator assisted calls from being billed to subscriber's line.

| ·                                 | NRC     | MRC    |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Selective Class of Call Screening |         |        |
| per line                          | \$18.00 | \$1.13 |

# 4.2.1.J Directory Listings

Non-recurring charge applies to customer requested changes in directory listings, except for changing from non-published/non-listed to a listed number.

|                     | NRC     | MRC    |
|---------------------|---------|--------|
| Non-listed          | \$18.00 | \$1.64 |
| Non-Published       | \$18.00 | \$3.15 |
| Additional Listings | \$18.00 | \$1.62 |

#### 4.3 Local Line Charges (per local line)

# 4.3.1 Local Number Portability

MRC

Per Line \$0.35

Per Trunk \$3.15

#### 4.4 Local and Toll Operator Service Charges

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Per Call

Station-to-Station

- Customer Dialed Calling Card \$0.80
- Operator Assisted \$2.25

Person-to-Person \$4.90

Operator Dialed Surcharge \$0.80

Partially Automated Surcharge \$0.50

Busy Line Verification \$1.04

Bsuy Line Interrupt \$1.54

4.5 Local Director Assistance Per Call

Within LCA for originating line Direct Dialed \$0.33

Operator assistance surcharge \$0.30

Outside LCA and LATA/NPA for orig. line

Direct Dialed \$0.85

Operator assistance surcharge \$0.30

Section 5 – Special Service Arrangements

5.1 Individual Case Basis Arrangements

Arrangements will be developed on a case-by-case basis in response to a bona fide special request from a Customer or prospective Customer to develop a competitive bid for a service not generally available under this tariff. Rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a non-discriminatory basis. All such rates will be submitted to the Commission for approval.

Section 6 – Billing Contents

6.1 Billing Contents

The Company's customer bills will contain the following information:

1. Name and address of Company Address for Correspondence Address for Remittance

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- 2. Customer Service/Billing Inquiry toll-free telephone number
- 3. Name and address of Customer
- 4. Bill Date
- 5. Payment Due Date
- 6. All Account Numbers
- 7. Invoice Number
- 8. Summary of Charges
- 9. Detail of Charges

# **TITLE SHEET**

# **RESALE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES**

This tariff applies to the Resale Interexchange Telecommunications Services furnished by USA Video Relay, Inc. within the State of South Carolina. This tariff is on file with the South Carolina Public Service Commission, and copies may be inspected, during normal business hours, at the Company's principal place of business located at 925 Wappoo Road, Suite C, Charleston, SC 29407.

This Company's toll-free telephone number is 1-888-705-0373 (Voice/TTY).

# **Check Sheet**

All sheets of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and Revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this page.

| Sheet | Revision |
|-------|----------|
| l     | Original |
| 2     | Original |
| 3     | Original |
| 4     | Original |
| 5     | Original |
| 6     | Original |
| 7     | Original |
| 8     | Original |
| 9     | Original |
| 10    | Original |
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| 12    | Original |
| 13    | Original |
| 14    | Original |
| 15    | Original |
| 16    | Original |
| 17    | Original |

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# **Symbols**

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- D Delete or Discontinue
- I Change Resulting In A Rate Increase
- M Moved From Another Tariff Location
- N New Material
- R Change Resulting In A Rate Reduction
- T Change In Text or Regulation But No Change In Rate or Charge

### **Tariff Format**

- A. <u>Sheet Numbering</u> Sheet numbers appear in the upper-right corner of the sheet. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between existing sheets with whole numbers, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between Sheets 14 and 15 would be Sheet 14.1.
- B. <u>Sheet Revision Numbers</u> Revision numbers also appear in the upper-right corner of the sheet. These numbers are used to determine the most current sheet version on file with the Commission. For example, 4th Revised Sheet 14 cancels 3rd Revised Page 14.
- C. <u>Paragraph Numbering Sequence</u> There are various levels of alphanumeric paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level of coding. For example:
- 2. 2.1. 2.1.1. 2.1.1.A. 2.1.1.A.1. 2.1.1.A.1.(a)
- D. <u>Check Sheets</u> When a tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated check sheet will accompany the filing. The check sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new sheets are added, the check sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this sheet if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc., remains the same, just new revision levels on some sheets). The tariff user should refer to the latest check sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current sheet on file with the Commission.

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Section 1 – Definitions and Abbreviations

#### 1.1 Definitions:

<u>Authorized User</u> - A person, firm, corporation, or other entity authorized by the customer to receive or send communications.

<u>Busy Hour</u> - The two consecutive half hours during which the greatest volume of traffic is handled.

Carrier - USA Video Relay, Inc., unless specifically stated otherwise.

Commission - The South Carolina Public Service Commission.

Company - USA Video Relay, Inc., also referred to as Carrier.

Completed Calls - Completed calls are answered calls on the distance end.

<u>Customer</u> - The person, firm, corporation, or other entity which orders or uses service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with tariff regulations.

Customer-Provided Equipment - Terminal equipment provided by a customer.

<u>Due Date</u> - The last day for payment without unpaid amounts being subject to a late payment charge.

<u>Holidays</u> - Carrier's recognized holidays are, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

<u>Person</u> - Any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association or other legal entity.

**Premises** - The customers location for services.

<u>Terminal Equipment</u> - Devices, apparatus and their associated wiring, such as teleprinters, telephone handsets, data sets, or microprocessors.

#### 1.2 Abbreviations:

LATA - Local Access Transport Area

LEC - Local Exchange Carrier

MTS - Message Toll Service

PBX - Private Branch Exchange

SAL - Special Access Line

V&H - Vertical and Horizontal

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Section 2 - Regulations

## 2.1 Undertaking of Carrier

Carrier provides long distance message toll telephone service to customers for their transmission of voice, data, and other types of telecommunications.

Communications originate when the customer accesses Carrier directly or through the facilities of the local service carrier via one or more access lines, equal access or on a dial-up basis. Carrier may act as the customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities, when authorized by the customer, to allow connection of a customer's location to the Carrier network. The customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service arrangements.

The Company's services are provided on a monthly basis (30 days) and are available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

## 2.2 Limitations on Service

- 2.2.1 Carrier reserves the right to provide services only to and from locations where the necessary facilities and/or equipment are available and subject to the provisions of this tariff.
- 2.2.2. Carrier reserves the right to discontinue furnishing service upon written notice, when necessitated by conditions beyond its control or when the customer is using the service in violation of the provisions of this tariff or in violation of the law.
- 2.2.3. Title to any equipment provided by Carrier under these regulations remains with Carrier. Prior written permission from the company is required before any assignment or transfer. All regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to any such assignee or transferee.

## 2.3 Use of Service

Service may not be used for any unlawful purposes.

The minimum period for service is one month (30 days), unless otherwise noted in the service description.

## 2.4 Limitation of Liability

2.4.1 Carrier shall not be liable to any person, firm or entity for damages, either direct, indirect, consequential, special, incidental, actual, punitive, or for any other damages or for any lost profits, arising out of mistakes, accidents, errors, omissions, interruptions, delays or defects in transmissions, not caused by the negligence of the customer, commencing upon activation of service and in no event exceeding an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the customer for the period of service during which the mistake, accident, error, omission, interruption, delay or defect in transmission occurred.

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- 2.4.2 Carrier will indemnify the customer and hold it harmless in respect to any loss, damage, liability or expense asserted against the customer by a third party on account of any property damage or personal injury caused by any negligence or willful misconduct of Carrier or its agents or representatives arising out of performance by Carrier of any testing or other activities on the customer's premises pursuant to this tariff. Carrier's obligations under the preceding sentence shall be subject to the customer's full performance of this tariff and subject further to the customer's duty to take reasonable precautions in the location, construction, maintenance and operation of all activities, facilities and equipment for the protection against hazard or injury and so as to not interfere with the services provided by Carrier.
- 2.4.3 Carrier shall be indemnified and held harmless by the customer against:
  - A. Claims for libel, slander, infringement of patent or copyright or unauthorized use of any trademark, trade name, or service mark arising out of the material, data information, or other content transmitted over the carrier's facilities; and
  - B. All other claims arising out of any act or omission by the customer in connection with any service provided by Carrier.

#### 2.5 Interruption of Service

A credit allowance for interruptions of service which are not due to Carrier's testing or adjusting, to the negligence, of the customer, or to the failure of the channels, equipment, and/or communications systems provided by the customer, are subject to the liability provisions set forth herein. It shall be the obligation of the customer to notify Carrier of any interruption in service. Before giving such notice, the customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission by or within the customer's control and is not in wiring or equipment connected to the Carrier terminal.

### 2.6 Restoration of Service

The use and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with the Part 64, Subpart D of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations which specifies the priority system for such activities.

#### 2.7 Customer Responsibility

- 2.7.1 All customers assume general responsibilities in connection with the provisions and use of Carrier's service. All customers are responsible for the following:
  - A. The customer is responsible for placing orders for service, paying all charges for service rendered by Carrier and complying with all of Carrier's regulations governing the service. The customer is also responsible for assuring that its users comply with regulations.
  - B. When placing an order for service, the customer must provide:

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- 1. The name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) responsible for the payment of service charges.
- 2. The name(s), telephone number(s), and address(es) of the customer contact person(s).
- C. The customer must pay Carrier for the replacement or repair on Carrier's equipment when the damage results from:
  - 1. The negligence or willful act of the customer or user.
  - 2. Improper use of service.
  - 3. Any use of equipment or service provided by others.

# 2.7.2 Maintenance, Testing, and Adjustment

Upon reasonable notice, equipment provided by Carrier shall be made available for such tests and adjustments as may be necessary to maintain them in satisfactory condition. No interruption allowance will be granted for such time.

#### 2.7.3 Deposits

- A. Carrier may require a customer or prospective customer to pay a deposit if the following conditions exist:
  - 1. The customer's past telecommunications utility payment record reflects delinquent payment practices. (i.e. customer had 2 consecutive 30-day arrearages or more than 2 non-consecutive 30-day arrearages within the past 24 months, or has been sent four or more late payment notices in the past 9 months.)
  - 2. A new customer cannot furnish either a letter of good credit or an acceptable cosigner or guarantor on the same system within South Carolina to guarantee payment.
  - 3. An existing customer has no deposit and is presently delinquent in payment. (i.e. customer had 2 consecutive 30-day arrearages, or more than 2 nonconsecutive 30-day arrearages, within the past 24 months, or has been sent four or more late payment notices in the past 9 months.)
  - 4. A customer has had service terminated by any telecommunications utility for non-payment or fraudulent use.
- B. For new customers deposits will be an amount equal to two (2) months estimated total billing (including toll and taxes) and for existing customers

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deposits will be an amount equal to the total actual bills of the highest two (2) consecutive months within the preceding six (6) month period.

- C. Deposit amounts may be adjusted upward or downward to reflect the actual billing experience and payment habits of the customer.
- D. Simple interest accruing annually shall be paid on deposits held by the Company at a rate prescribed by the Commission for the period during which the deposit was held. Payment of interest shall be made to the customer at least every two (2) years and at the time the deposit is returned. A deposit will cease to draw interest on the date it is returned, the date service is terminated or on the date notice is sent to the customer's last known address that the deposit is no longer required.
- E. Deposits will be refunded with interest after two (2) years unless the customer has had two consecutive 30-day arrearages or more than two non-consecutive 30-day arrearages in the past 24 months, or has had service denied or interrupted for nonpayment of bills, or has been sent more than two late payment notices in the past 9 months, or has a returned check in the past 6 months.

# 2.7 Customer Responsibility

#### 2.7.1 Credit Allowance

Credit for failure of service or equipment will be allowed only when failure is caused by or occurs in equipment owned, provided and billed for, by Carrier.

- A. Credit allowances for failure of service or equipment starts when the customer notifies Carrier of the failure or when Carrier becomes aware of the failure and ceases when the operation has been restored and an attempt has been made to notify the customer.
- B. The customer shall notify Carrier of failures of service or equipment and make reasonable attempts to ascertain that the failure is not caused by customer provided facilities, any act, or omission of the customer or in wiring or equipment connected to the terminal.
- C. Only those portions of the service or equipment operation disabled will be credited. No credit allowances will be made for:
  - 1. Interruptions of service resulting from Carrier performing routine maintenance;
  - 2. Interruptions of service for implementation of a customer order for a change in the service;
  - 3. Interruption caused by the negligence of the customer or his authorized user:

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4. Interruptions of service because of the failure of service or equipment due to customer or authorized user-provided facilities.

## 2.7.2 Cancellation by Customer

If a customer orders services requiring special equipment and/or facilities dedicated to the customer's use and then cancels his order before the service begins, a charge will be made to the customer for the non-recoverable portions of expenditures or liabilities incurred on behalf of the customer by the Company.

### 2.7.3 Payment and Charges for Services

- A. Service is provided and billed on a monthly basis.
- B. Payment is due within 20 days after the bill is rendered by the Company. The bill is considered rendered when deposited in the U.S. mail with postage prepaid to the customers last known address.
- C. Interest at the rate of 1.5% will be added to any unpaid balance brought forth from the previous billing date to cover the cost of collection and carrying accounts in arrears. This method of late payment charge will be in lieu of any other penalties allowed by law.
- D. The customer is responsible for payment of all charges for service furnished to the customer. Charges based on actual usage during a month will be billed monthly in arrears.
- E. Service may be denied or discontinued at Carrier's discretion, for non-payment of amounts due Carrier, past the due date.

### 2.7.4 Billing Disputes

If written or verbal notice of dispute as to charges is not received by the Company within the applicable statute of limitations such bill shall be deemed correct and binding. In the case of a billing dispute between the user and the Carrier for service furnished to the user, which cannot be settled with mutual satisfaction, the user can take the following course of action:

- 1.) First, the user may request, and the Carrier will provide, an in-depth review of the disputed amount. This can be done by dialing 1-888-705-0373 (Voice/TTY). (The undisputed portion and subsequent bills must be paid on a timely basis or the service may be subject to disconnect.)
- 2.) Second, if there is still a disagreement about the disputed amount after the investigation and review by manager of the Carrier, the user may file an appropriate complaint with the Commission. The Commission's address is:

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South Carolina Public Service Comm. 101 Executive Center Drive P.O. Drawer 11649 Columbia, South Carolina 29210 Phone: (803) 896-5100 or 1-800-922-1531

# 2.7.5 Application of Charges

The charge for services are those in effect for the period that service is furnished.

# 2.8 Carrier Responsibility

#### 2.8.1 Calculation of Credit Allowance

Pursuant to limitations set forth in Section 2.7.4, when service is interrupted the credit allowance will be computed on the following basis:

- A. No credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than two hours.
- B. The customer shall be credited for each interruption of two hours or major fraction thereof that an interruption continues beyond two hours.
- C. When a minimum usage charge is applicable and the customer fails to meet a usage minimum credit, the outage shall be applied against that minimum equal to  $1/360^{th}$  of the monthly minimum charges associated with the portion of service disabled for each period of two hours or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues beyond two hours.

## 2.8.2 Cancellation of Credit

Where Carrier cancels a service or the provision of equipment and the final service period is less than the monthly billing period, a credit will be issued for any amounts billed in advance, prorated at 1/30th of the monthly recurring charge for each day the service was rendered or the equipment was provided. This credit will be issued to the customer or applied against the balance remaining on the customer's account.

# 2.8.3 Disconnection of Service by Carrier

Carrier may refuse or discontinue service for any of the reasons listed below without incurring any liability. Unless otherwise stated, the customer will be allowed a reasonable time in which to comply with the rule before service is discontinued.

A. Non-payment of regulated sums due to Carrier for service for more than thirty (30) days beyond the date of rendition of the bill for such regulated services.

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ISSUED BY: Daryl Crouse, President

925 Wappoo Road, Suite C Charleston, SC 29407 Service will not be discontinue without prior written notice to the customer in accordance with 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-633 (Supp. 1999);

- B. For a violation of any regulation governing the service under this tariff;
- C. For a violation of any law, rule, or regulation of any government authority having jurisdiction over the service;
- D. Without notice, in the event of a condition determined hazardous by the Company;
- E. Without notice in the event of customer use of equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect Carrier's provision of service to others;
- F. For failure of customer to permit Carrier reasonable access to its equipment.

## 2.8.4 Fractional Charges Upon Discontinuance of Service

Credits for a fractional part of a month are calculated by counting the number of days in the billing period before service was discontinued. That number is divided by thirty days and the resultant fraction multiplied by the monthly charge to arrive at the fractional monthly charge.

#### 2.9 Termination of Service

#### 2.9.1 Termination by Customer

When a customer desires to have service terminated, the customer must notify the Company orally or in writing. The Company will send the customer a final bill for service within a reasonable time after the receipt of such notice of termination.

# 2.9.2 Termination by the Company

Service may be terminated by the Company for non-payment of a bill, provided that the Company has made a reasonable attempt to effect collection and has given the customer written notice that settlement of the account must be made within five days or service will be disconnected. Service will be terminated only on Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., unless provisions have been made by the Company to have someone available to accept payment and reconnect service.

Section 3 – Description of Service and Rates

## 3.1 Timing of Calls

ISSUED: January 3, 2005

**ISSUED BY:** Daryl Crouse, President 925 Wappoo Road, Suite C

Charleston, SC 29407

The customer's monthly usage charges for Carrier service are based upon the total number of minutes the customer uses and service options subscribed to. Chargeable time begins when the connection is established between the calling station and the called station or PBX. Chargeable time ends when either party "hangs up." There are no charges incurred if a call is not completed.

## 3.2 Start of Billing

For billing purposes, the start of service is the first day on which service is available for use by the customer. The end of service date is the last day or any portion of the last day for which service was provided to the customer.

#### 3.3 Interconnection

Service furnished by Carrier may be interconnected with services or facilities of other authorized communications common carriers and with private systems, subject to the technical limitations established by Carrier. Service furnished by Carrier is not part of a joint undertaking with such other carriers. Any special interface equipment of Carrier and other participating carriers shall be provided at the customer's expense. Interconnection with the facilities or services of other carriers shall be under the applicable terms and conditions of other carriers' tariffs. The customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting his customer-provided terminal equipment or communications systems with Carrier's. The customer shall secure all licenses, permits, right-of-ways, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection.

### 3.4 Terminal Equipment

Carrier's service may be used with or terminated in customer provided terminal equipment or customer provided communication systems, such as teleprinters, handsets, or data sets. Such terminal equipment will be furnished and maintained at the expense of the providing customer, except as otherwise agreed in advance and in writing. The customer is responsible for all costs at their premises, including personnel, wiring, electrical power, and the like incurred in the use of Carrier's service. When such terminal equipment is used, the equipment shall comply with the generally accepted minimum protective criteria of the telecommunications industry.

#### 3.5 Minimum Call Completion Rate

The customer can expect a call completion rate of 97% of calls attempted during peak use periods for all Feature Group D (1+) services.

# 3.6 Special Services

A Special Service is any service requested by the customer for which there is no prescribed rate in this tariff. Special Service charges will be developed on an individual case basis and submitted to the Commission for prior approval.

#### 3.7 Services Offerings

ISSUED: January 3, 2005

**ISSUED BY:** Daryl Crouse, President 925 Wappoo Road, Suite C

Charleston, SC 29407

The company provides the following services:

## 3.7.1 Message Toll Service (MTS)

Outgoing long distance service whereby the customer accesses the Company's underlying carrier's network on an equal access or dial-up basis. In non-equal access areas, the customer will gain access to the Carrier's network by dialing a 101XXXX access code which will be provided by the Company.

#### 3.7.2 Inbound 8XX Service

Inbound service is virtual banded inbound toll service which permits calls to be completed at the subscriber's location without charge to the calling party. Access to the service is gained by dialing a ten digit telephone number which terminates at the customer's location. Inbound services originate via normal shared use facilities and are terminated via the customers' local exchange service access line. Carrier will accept a prospective inbound service customer's request for up to ten (10) telephone numbers and will reserve such number(s) on a first come first serve basis. All requests for number reservations must be made in writing, dated and signed by a responsible representative of the customer. Carrier does not guarantee the availability of number(s) until assigned. The telephone number(s) so requested, if found to be available, will be reserved for and furnished to the eligible customer. If a customer who has received a number does not subscribe to inbound service within 90 days, the company reserves the right to make the assigned number available for use by another customer.

# 3.7.3 Travel Card Service

Allows subscribers to place calls by gaining access to the network via a toll free telephone number and personal identification number (PIN) issued by the Company.

#### 3.7.4 Directory Assistance

Directory assistance is the provision of listed telephone numbers to requesting customers. The Company will provide directory assistance service to customers at a per call charge.

## 3.7.5 Operator Services

The Company will not provide operator services to end users. The Company's underlying carrier will provide and bill for all operator assisted services.

Section 4 - Rates and Charges

## 4.1 Usage Charges

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# 4.1.1 Usage Charges

Usage is flat rated.

#### 4.1.2 Billing Increments

Usage is billed in accordance with the billing increments set forth in the individual product rate sections of this tariff. All partial usage will be rounded up to the next highest applicable billing increment.

## 4.1.3 Rounding

All calls are rounded to the next highest billing interval. Total charge for a fraction of a cent will be rounded to the next highest whole cent.

#### 4.1.4 Taxes

All rates stated are exclusive of any applicable taxes.

#### 4.2 Marketing

## 4.2.1 Special Promotions

Any marketing efforts will clearly indicate to the potential customers the nature of the transaction which is being offered. Materials submitted to prospective customers will clearly indicate that those customers will be changing their long distance carrier if they accept such solicitation. Any special promotions will be filed with the Commission at least 14 days prior to initiation of the promotion.

#### 4.2.2 Marketing Statement

As a telephone utility under the regulation of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, the carrier hereby asserts and affirms that as a reseller of intrastate telecommunications service, it will not indulge or participate in deceptive or inisleading telecommunications marketing practices to the detriment of consumers in South Carolina, and it will comply with those marketing procedure, if any, set forth by the Public Service Commission. Additionally, it will be responsible for the marketing practices of its contracted telemarketers for compliance with this provision. It understands that violation of this provision could result in a rule to show cause as to the withdrawal of its certificate to complete intrastate telecommunications traffic within the State of South Carolina.

## 4.3 Outbound 1+ Service

\$0.07 per minute.
Billed in six (6) second increments.

#### 4.4 Inbound 8XX Service

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\$0.07 per minute.
Billed in one (1) minute increments.

# 4.5 Travel Card Service

\$0.25 per minute.
Billed in one (1) minute increments.

The payphone surcharge stated in Section 4.8 will apply to calls placed to an 8XX number.

# 4.6 Directory Assistance

The Company's customers will be billed the following per call charge to be connected to the local exchange company directory assistance service for directory assistance calls within the State.

Directory Assistance Charge: \$0.89 per call

# 4.7 Returned Check Charge

Any customer issuing Carrier check(s) returned to Carrier will be charged \$25.00 per check.

# 4.8 Special Promotions

Carrier may from time to time offer special promotions to customers upon prior Commission approval of such promotion.

# 4.9 Dial Around Pay Telephone (Payphone) Surcharge

A dial around surcharge of \$0.35 per call will be added to any completed intrastate toll access code and subscriber 8XX type calls placed from a public or semi-public payphone.

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